

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /068 W

----- 128043

P R 1411640Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2450

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF

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AMCONSUL MUNICH

EUCOM VAIHINGEN

USAREUR HEIDELBERG

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FOR POLADS

3.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, GW

SUJ: BAADER-MEINHOF TRIAL ADJOURNED UNTIL MAY 30

1. SUMMARY: BAADER-MEINHOF TRIAL OPENED MAY 21. EFFORTS MADE TO REINSTATE THREE BARRED DEFENSE LAWYERS CREATES UNCERTAINTY. COURT APPROVES FEDERAL ATTORNEY REQUEST FOR TRIAL ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 30 MAY TO RESOLVE ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

2. BAADER-MEINHOF TRIAL STARTED ON MAY 21 IN STUTTGART. DEFENSE LAWYERS BEGAN BY REQUESTING REINSTATEMENT OF THREE DEFENSE LAWYERS (CROISSANT, STROEBELE, AND GROENEWOLD) WHO HAD RECENTLY BEEN EXCLUDED FROM DEFENSE OF THEIR IN-
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DIVIDUAL CLIENTS BECAUSE OF ALLEGED CONSPIRACY WITH
DEFENDANTS. REQUEST REJECTED BY COURT.

3. REMAINING DEFENSE LAWYERS ARGUED THAT THOSE THREE
LAWYERS COULD THEN DEFEND OTHERS THAN THEIR FORMER
CLIENTS. FEDERAL PROSECUTING ATTORNEY (BUNDESANWALTSCHAFT)
ALSO ARGUED THAT IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHETHER BARRED LAWYERS
ALSO EXCLUDED FROM DEFENDING OTHERS.

4. FEDERAL PROSECUTOR (BUNDESANWALTSCHAFT), THEREFORE
REQUESTED ADJOURNMENT OF TRIAL. COURT APPROVED REQUEST
AND ADJOURNED UNTIL MAY 30. COURT WILL HAVE UNTIL THEN
TO CLARIFY QUESTION.

COMMENT: ALTHOUGH BROADER OUTLINES OF BAADER-MEINHOF
STRATEGY NOT YET REVEALED, ONE ELEMENT SEEMS CLEAR: I.E.,
CHALLENGE TO LEGALITY OF RECENT GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO
CURB ABUSES OF LAWYER-CLIENT RELATIONSHIP, INCLUDING
EXPLOITATION OF POSSIBLE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COURTS AND
ADMINISTRATION ON THIS SUBJECT. THIS, THEY MAY FEEL,
WAS EVIDENCED IN COURT'S DECISION RE RELEASE OF HAAG,
ONE OF BAADER'S LAWYERS, IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS ARREST
AS SUSPECTED COURIER IN HEIDELBERG ON MAY 9. JENKINS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRORISTS, TRIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STUTT00511
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750178-0543
From: STUTTGART
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750593/aaaagpxc.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971008
Subject: BAADER-MEINHOF TRIAL
TAGS: PINS, GE, BAADER-MEINHOF GROUP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006